



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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FEMA-1502-DR-VA

Commonwealth Situation Report #8

Tuesday, February 10, 2004

1. Situation

A severe storm system moved into the Commonwealth of Virginia on November 18 and 19, 2003 dumping up to 4.28 inches of rain in 12 hours resulting in flash floods through the southwestern part of Virginia. Two young children in Buchanan County died when their home was washed away by a flash flood. Preliminary assessments indicated the most severe impacts were to single-family residences, manufactured homes and private access bridges. Several apartment buildings with major damage were also identified, as well as damage to sewer pipes and private wells.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency in the counties of Bland, Buchanan, Giles, Pulaski, Rockbridge, Smyth and Tazewell, and the cities of Galax and Radford on November 20. After evaluations by Preliminary Damage Assessment teams, Governor Warner requested a federal disaster declaration on November 26. On December 9, a Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1502-DR-VA) was granted to Virginia for Individual Assistance in the counties of Bland, Buchanan, Giles, Smyth and Tazewell, and the city of Galax. Effective January 9, the US Homeland Security advisory level and the Virginia threat advisory level were lowered from orange (high) to yellow (elevated).

2. Current State/Federal Priorities and Objectives

- ☐ Ensure priority handling of individual disaster victims.
- ☐ Manage public expectations through targeted media releases and appropriate staffing of public meetings and support all recovery program elements.

3. Recovery Activities

A. Human Services

i. Teleregistrations

- ☐ New teleregistrations since last reporting period amount to **65** for a total of **727** registrations at COB **February 9**. See Attachment 1 for teleregistrations by jurisdictions.
- ☐ Although the **registration period was terminated COB February 9**, individuals with extenuating circumstances can still register for FEMA assistance by calling 1-800-621-FEMA or TTY 1-800-462-7585 for the speech or hearing impaired. Lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

ii. **Small Business Administration** (as of COB 2/9/04)

	Issued	Received	#Approved	\$ Approved	Declined	Withdrawn	Pending
Home	271	40	11	\$143,700	17	5	7
Business	64	8	1	\$36,700	3	2	2
EIDL	N/A	8	1	\$300	0	5	2
TOTAL	335	56	13	\$180,700	20	12	11

iii. **Individuals and Households Program (IHP)**

(a) **Housing**

- ☐ Temporary housing assistance disbursed to date – ***\$886,253.07***.
- ☐ More than 76 homes destroyed, 149 homes with major damage, 255 with minor damage and 128 homes affected. Losses estimated are at \$10,283,389. More than 47 businesses were affected by the incident, including three destroyed. Estimated losses amount to \$2,681,000.

(b) **Other Needs Assistance**

Amount Referrals Approved:	<i>\$231,088.01</i>
Amount Referrals Disbursed:	<i>\$231,088.01</i>
Total Referrals Received:	<i>269</i>
Total Referrals Approved:	<i>97</i>
Total Referrals Ineligible:	<i>145</i>
Total Referrals Withdrawn:	<i>15</i>
Total Referrals Pending	<i>12</i>

B. Mitigation

- ☐ No new issues.

C. Legislative Liaison

- ☐ No new issues.

D. Public Affairs

- ☐ Issued Press Releases on:
 - ☐ ***“Flooded Homes to Farmers Market: A Bluefield Success Story”***

E. Disaster Recovery Task Forces

- ☐ No new issues.

Authority of Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator

/s/ Harry E. Colestock III, Deputy State Coordinating Officer

Attachment 1 – Teleregistrations
As of COB *February 9*

Designated Jurisdictions	Daily On 2/9	Cumulative
Bland	0	57
Buchanan	9	72
Galax (city)	2	36
Giles	0	59
Smyth	8	93
Tazewell	10	391
Total	29	708

Undesignated Jurisdictions	Daily On 2/9	Cumulative
Carroll	2	3
Craig	0	1
Hanover	0	1
Henry	0	1
Lexington (City)	0	1
Newport News (City)	0	1
Prince Edward	0	1
Radford	0	1
Russell	0	1
San Juan (Municipio)	0	1
Spotsylvania	0	1
Virginia Beach (City)	0	1
Wythe	0	1
Total	2	15